

Courthouse Safety

Employee Protection and Avoidance
of Domestic Violence

Courthouse Safety

- This is an interactive presentation.
- I will be asking about your work place.
- We will identify some of the short comings.
- We will discover and recommend solutions.
- You will need to address these concerns.
- You will need to justify your recommendations, in writing.
- Change is difficult, not impossible.

Work Place Violence

- Homicide is the second leading cause of fatal occupational injury in the United States.
- Nearly 1,000 workers are murdered and 1.5 million are assaulted in the workplace each year.
- 80 percent were shot and nine percent were stabbed.

Work Place Violence

- There were 396,000 aggravated assaults
- 51,000 rapes and sexual assaults
- 84,000 robberies.
- These figures likely fall short of the actual number of violent acts occurring in workplaces as not all acts of workplace violence are reported.

■ Workplace Violence Examined
■ By [Susan M. Heathfield](#), About.com Guide

Security Measures

- Start from the time you arrive at your work site.
- 1. Separate parking for employees?
- 2. Secured parking for employees?
- 3. Separate entrance for employees?

Security Measures

- Hallways to your area, safe?
- Locking doors?
- Desk or work area is it secured from the public?
- How and where do you interact with your customers?

Duress Devices

- Do you have duress devices in your work area?
- Are they battery powered or hardwired?
- Where are they monitored at?
- How often are they checked to see if they work?
- Do you activate the device?
- Do you know how to operate the device?

Video Monitoring

- Are the following areas monitored by cameras?
- Parking Lot
- Entrances
- Hallways
- Public Work Areas

- Are you still awake?



- I am watching you...

- Don't make your workplace a fortress, but...
-



Security Measures

- Know the number to call for immediate help.
- Know an escape route.
- Do you know what to do in an active shooter situation?
- What to do in a combative situation.

Security Measures Dealing with Customers and Clients

- Look for signs of trouble
- Read body language
- Be ready to admit when it too much, get assistance for co-workers etc...
- Don't wait until it is too late

Want to make changes?

- Do not wait for someone else to do it.
- Start the ball rolling at your level.
- Identify your security deficiencies.
- Put it in writing.
- No, really...put it in writing.
- If you have a security committee make this part of the agenda.

Want to make changes? (cont'd)

- If a security committee does not exist, turn in your written identification of deficiencies through your hierarchy.
- Request in your writings that the recommendation is sent to the appropriate section for evaluation.
- Make reasonable recommendations for corrective actions.
- Volunteer to be part of a sub-committee to find a solution/resolution to the problem.

Troubles ahead

- Security is neither cheap nor convenient.
- You will need to address both the costs and inconvenience.
- You will have to sell your ideas.
- Immediately address any problems that you foresee.
- Ensure that you give ownership to your audience.

Security Expertise

- You do not have to be an security expert to identify a problem and offer a solution.
- Common sense will take care most of the issues at hand. If you need help, there are security experts closer than you think.
- Each county law enforcement agency has at least one person on hand to determine security needs for the agency and the public it serves.

Security Expertise (cont'd)

- The definition of an expert is someone that you pay a lot of money to that is from the other side of the United States.
- Realistically experts are right around you. Don't be afraid to ask.

Questions?

Contact Information

Lieutenant Keith Bageant

Prince George's County, Office of the
Sheriff

Desk (301) 952-2071

Cell (240) 508-7669

E-mail: kgbageant@co.pg.md.us